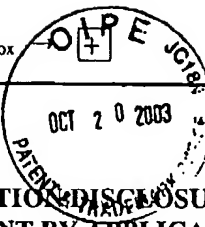


Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/650,660
				Filing Date	8/28/03
				First Named Inventor	Kimiaki Asano
				Group Art Unit	3749
				Examiner Name	ALFRED BASICHAS PRIMARY EXAMINER
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket No.	00682P007005

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
AB			2001-140765	Japan	Uisia Jecs Corp.			x
			2001-065813	Japan	Noritz Corp.			x
			2000-304355	Japan	Matsushita Electric			x
			2000-249336	Japan	Denso Corp.			x
			2000-161609	Japan	Noritz Corp.			x
			2000-018571	Japan	Sanyo Electric			x
			11-241808	Japan	Toto Ltd.			x
			10-227453	Japan	Toto Ltd.			x
			10-205383	Japan	Isuzu Motors Ltd.			x
			10-019156	Japan	Daikin Ind. Ltd.			x
			08-075141	Japan	Corona:kk			x
			05-322153	Japan	Nippon Injector KK			x
			63-275870 (63-275870)	Japan	Taisan Kogyo KK			x
			09-049628	Japan	Mitsubishi Electric			x
			03-221718	Japan	Matsushita Electric			x
			03-125814	Japan	Matsushita Electric			x
			03-063413	Japan	Matsushita Electric			x
			02-057816	Japan	Taisan Kogyo KK			x
			01-167508	Japan	Nippon Sanso KK			x
			62-186112	Japan	Babcock Hitachi			x
			63-275870 (3-59310)	Japan	Taisan Kogyo			x
			58-140508	Japan	Taisan Kogyo			x
			60-022069	Japan	Toyota Motor Corp.			x
AB			08-049839	Japan	Mitsubishi Electric			x
Examiner Signature						Date Considered	8/9/04	

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicate don the document under WIPO Standards ST.16, if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a checkmark here if English language Translation is attached.